



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

MAILED

NOV 19 2004

Technology Center 2100

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC
1835 MARKET STREET, 14TH FLOOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19103-2985

In re Application of: Richards, et al.
Application No. 10/628,547
Filed: July 28, 2003
For: PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM
AND METHOD FOR RETAIL SALES

DECISION ON PETITION
FOR ACCELERATED
EXAMINATION UNDER
M.P.E.P. §708.02(VIII)

This is a decision on the petition filed August 9, 2004 under 37 C.F.R. 102(d) and M.P.E.P. § 708.02(VIII): Accelerated Examination, to make the above-identified application special.

The Petition is **GRANTED**.

M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section VIII which sets out the prerequisites for a grantable petition for Accelerated Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 102(d) states in relevant part:

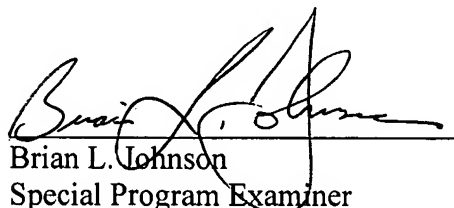
A new application (one which has not received any examination by the examiner) may be granted special status provided that applicant (and this term includes applicant's attorney or agent) complies with each of the following items:

- (a) Submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in **37 CFR 1.17(h)**;
- (b) Presents all claims directed to a single invention, or if the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status;
- (c) Submits a statement(s) that a pre-examination search was made, listing the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. The pre-examination search must be directed to the invention as claimed in the application for which special status is requested. A search made by a foreign patent office satisfies this requirement;
- (d) Submits one copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and

(e) Submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

Petition to Make Special **GRANTED** since all of the requirements for special status under MPEP § 708.02(VIII) have been met.

The application file is being forwarded to the Examiner for accelerated examination in accordance with the procedures set forth in M.P.E.P. §708.02, Section VIII. If the application is subsequently allowed, it will be given priority for printing. See M.P.E.P. §1309. **Applicant may wish to consider filing an Information Disclosure Statement (PTO-1449 or PTO-SB08A) to ensure consideration of all the references cited in the petition by the assigned examiner.**



Brian L. Johnson
Special Program Examiner
Technology Center 2100
Computer Architecture, Software and Information Security
571-272-3595

4/
18/
04

MBS